

**CONDITIONAL WAIVER RENEWAL
AND TMDL LIST AMENDMENT**

**WATER QUALITY CONTROL POLICY FOR SITING,
DESIGN, OPERATION, AND MAINTENANCE OF
ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS**

STAFF REPORT

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

April XX, 2018

Table of Contents

1.	SUMMARY OF THE POLICY AMENDMENT	1
2.	REGULATORY BACKGROUND	1
2.1	Existing Regulatory Framework	1
2.1.1	General Federal Plans, Policies, Regulations, and Laws	1
2.2	State Plans, Policies, Regulations, and Laws	2
2.2.1	Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act	2
2.2.2	Regional Water Quality Control Boards	2
2.2.3	California Environmental Quality Act	3
2.2.3.1	OWTS Policy Substitute Environmental Document.....	3
2.2.3.2	Determination on Need for Additional CEQA Review	3
3.	Rationale for the Proposed Amendments to the OWTS Policy.....	4
3.1	Conditional Waiver Renewal.....	4
3.2	Review of Waiver Conditions	5
3.3	Revisions to Tables 5 and 6, Attachment 2.....	7

Table of Attachments

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	Summary of Amendments to OWTS Policy Tables 5 and 6
Attachment B	Amendment to the Water Quality Control Policy for Siting, Design, Operation and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS Policy), Attachment 2, Tables 5 and 6

ACRONYMS

APMP	Advanced Protection Management Program
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CWA	Clean Water Act
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
gpd	Gallons Per Day
OWTS	Onsite Wastewater Treatment System
RWD	Report of Waste Discharge
SDWA	Safe Drinking Water Act
SED	Substitute Environmental Document
UIC	Underground Injection Control
U.S. EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
WDRs	Waste Discharge Requirements

1. SUMMARY OF THE POLICY AMENDMENT

This Staff Report supports renewal of the conditional waiver and amendment of Tables 5 and 6 contained in the Water Quality Control Policy for Siting, Design, Operation, and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS Policy). The OWTS Policy establishes a statewide, risk-based, tiered approach for the regulation and management of OWTS installations and replacements, and sets the level of performance and protection expected from OWTS. In particular, the OWTS Policy requires actions for water bodies specifically identified as part of this Policy where OWTS contribute to water quality impairment that adversely affects beneficial uses. The OWTS Policy was adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) on June 19, 2012; it was approved by the Office of Administrative Law on November 13, 2012; and consistent with OWTS Policy section 13.0, became effective six months later on May 13, 2013.

The OWTS Policy authorizes subsurface disposal of domestic strength, and in limited instances high strength, wastewater and establishes minimum requirements for the permitting, monitoring, and operation of OWTS for protecting beneficial uses of waters of the state and preventing or correcting conditions of pollution and nuisance. The Policy also conditionally waives the requirement for owners of OWTS to apply for and receive waste discharge requirements (WDRs) in order to operate their systems when they meet the conditions set forth in the Policy. The Policy applies to OWTS on federal, state, and tribal lands to the extent authorized by law or agreement.

Applicable statewide, the principal responsibility for implementation of the OWTS Policy lies with the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards). However, the OWTS Policy also assigns responsibilities to OWTS owners, local agencies that issue OWTS permits, and the State Water Board.

2. REGULATORY BACKGROUND

2.1 Existing Regulatory Framework

A wide range of overlapping laws, regulations, policies, plans, and programs that address discharges from OWTS are administered by federal, state, and local agencies.

2.1.1 General Federal Plans, Policies, Regulations, and Laws

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) is the lead federal agency responsible for managing water quality. The Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972 (also known as the Clean Water Act [CWA]) and its amendments and the Safe Drinking Water Act are the primary federal law that govern and authorize EPA's actions to control water quality. Elements of the CWA that address water quality and are relevant to the regulation of OWTS include:

- Federal Clean Water Act - Water Quality Control Plans Standards: Section 303 of the CWA requires states to adopt water quality standards for all surface waters of the United States. These water quality standards are contained in the water quality control plans (basin plans) of each of California's Regional Water Boards.
- Federal Clean Water Act - Antidegradation Policy: The federal policy directs states to adopt statewide policies that include the following primary provisions:

- ✓ Protect and maintain existing instream uses and water quality necessary to protect those uses.
- ✓ Protect and maintain existing water quality that is better than necessary to support fishing and swimming conditions unless the state degradation is necessary for important local economic or social development.
- ✓ Maintain and protect high-quality waters that constitute an outstanding national resource.
- Federal Clean Water Act - Section 303(d) Impaired Waters List - The State Water Board established requirements for OWTS near water bodies listed as impaired pursuant to CWA Section 303(d). OWTS Policy Attachment 2, Tables 5 and 6, list the water bodies where OWTS have been identified as contributing to the impairment. This staff report describes recommended changes to Tables 5 and 6.
- Safe Drinking Water Act - The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) regulates contaminants of concern in the domestic water supply. U.S. EPA establishes primary and secondary maximum contaminant levels that regulate these types of contaminants. The Underground Injection Control (UIC) program was established under the provisions of the SDWA and classifies some OWTS as injection wells subject to the UIC.

2.2 State Plans, Policies, Regulations, and Laws

2.2.1 Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act

California's Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Porter-Cologne Act), part of the California Water Code, is California's statutory authority for the protection of water quality. Under the Porter-Cologne Act, California must adopt water quality policies, plans, and objectives that protect the state's waters for the use and enjoyment of the people. The act sets forth the obligations of the State Water Board and the nine regional water boards pertaining to the adoption of basin plans and establishment of water quality objectives. The State Water Resources Control Board establishes policy for the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards. The State Water Board has primary responsibility for overseeing all the state's water quality regulations and standards, including water quality control plans and relevant water quality objectives and standards.

2.2.2 Regional Water Quality Control Boards

Each Regional Water Board has primary responsibility for designating the beneficial uses of water bodies within its region, establishing water quality objectives for protection of those uses, issuing permits, and conducting enforcement activities. Water quality objectives are established in basin plans. Regional Water Boards prepare and adopt total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for water bodies listed on the CWA Section 303(d) Impaired Waters List.

2.2.3 California Environmental Quality Act

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires government agencies to consider the environmental consequences of their actions before approving plans and policies or committing to a course of action on a project. CEQA applies only to discretionary government activities that are defined as “projects.” A project within the meaning of CEQA is the whole of an action which has the potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, and is one of a number of actions undertaken by a government agency or involving public agency discretionary approvals.

2.2.3.1 OWTS Policy Substitute Environmental Document

Adoption of a water quality control policy is a regulatory program that has been certified by the state’s Secretary for Natural Resources as exempt from the requirements of CEQA to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or Negative Declaration. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15251, subd. (g); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 3782.) Accordingly, the State Water Board in 2012 prepared a Substitute Environmental Document (SED) for adoption of the OWTS Policy in lieu of an EIR or negative declaration. The final SED includes the draft SED dated March 20, 2012, revisions to the draft SED, and responses to comments on the draft SED and OWTS Policy. The documents constituted the required environmental documentation under CEQA. (See Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 15250, 15252; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 3777.) As part of its approval process, the State Water Board duly considered the final SED, which identifies significant and unavoidable impacts resulting from adoption and implementation of the proposed OWTS Policy.

Consistent with Public Resources Code section 21081, subd. (b), specific overriding economic, legal, social, technological or other benefits were found to potentially outweigh the unavoidable adverse environmental impacts. The State Water Board declared a statement of overriding considerations concerning the OWTS Policy’s unavoidable significant impacts to explain why the benefits override and outweigh the OWTS Policy’s unavoidable impacts. The identified benefits included continued availability of an affordable means of wastewater disposal for housing in areas statewide that are removed from centralized wastewater treatment systems; a statewide approach that respects the land use authorities, knowledge, and expertise of local agencies; a coordinated and consistent approach to construction of new systems, so that water quality and public health are protected, and protection of waters impaired by constituents associated with operation of OWTS where OWTS are found to be contributing to the impairment. The State Water Board thus found the significant, unavoidable environmental impacts acceptable in light of the benefits set forth above, and further found that each of the benefits constitute an overriding benefit warranting approval of the OWTS Policy, independent of the other benefits, despite each and every unavoidable impact.

2.2.3.2 Determination on Need for Additional CEQA Review

The CEQA process begins with a preliminary review of the proposal to determine whether CEQA applies to the agency action, or whether the action is exempt (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14, §§ 15060–15061). If the agency determines that the activity is not subject to CEQA, it may file a notice of exemption and no further action to comply with CEQA is required (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14, §§ 15061 and 15062). State Water Board regulations governing CEQA compliance, including procedural requirements for substitute environmental documentation, do not apply if the State Water Board determines that the activity is not subject to CEQA. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, §3720, subd. (b).)

This conditional waiver renewal and TMDL list amendment do not require CEQA analysis because these actions to continue requirements or extend certain expected compliance dates of the OWTS Policy will result in no significant impacts. The State Water Board in 2012 identified significant and potentially significant impacts resulting from adoption of the OWTS Policy. The State Water Board also analyzed reasonable alternatives to the project, as well as mitigation measures to avoid or reduce any significant or potentially significant adverse environmental impacts. Finally, the State Water Board conducted an environmental analysis of the reasonably foreseeable methods of compliance, including reasonably foreseeable alternative methods of compliance that would have less significant adverse environmental impacts. These analyses considered all provisions set forth within the multi-tiered approach to regulation and management of OWTS installations and replacements, including adoption of the conditional waiver. The SED analyzed not only the proposed OWTS Policy and the proposed waiver, as part of the Policy, but also subsequent actions of the State Water Board, Regional Water Boards, and local agencies to implement the OWTS Policy. (See, State Water Resources Control Board, Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Policy Final Substitute Environmental Document, approved June 19, 2012, at p. 12, 174.)

The State Water Board's consideration of the conditional waiver renewal and TMDL list amendment does not require analysis of environmental impacts within the meaning of CEQA because the whole of the action considered does not have the potential to result in either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. (See, Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15060, subd. (c)(2); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15378, subd. (a). See also, Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15061, subd. (b)(2).) Renewing the conditional waiver simply continues the regulatory activities and management framework previously approved as part of the OWTS Policy and analyzed in the SED relative to existing physical environmental conditions. Amending the TMDL list based on technical work performed or minor schedule changes based on staffing availability will not produce a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. Extensions to expected TMDL compliance dates set forth in Attachment 2 do not otherwise affect Tier 3 requirements for advanced protection management programs for impaired areas and default requirements for systems located near impaired water bodies within the meaning of Tier 3.

3. Rationale for the Proposed Amendments to the OWTS Policy

Proposed changes to the OWTS Policy consist of revisions to Tables 5 and 6 in OWTS Policy Attachment 2. The State Water Board also proposes to renew the conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements set forth in OWTS Policy section 12.0, which does not by itself require an OWTS Policy amendment.

3.1 Conditional Waiver Renewal

Water Code section 13260 requires that persons discharging waste or proposing to discharge waste that could affect the quality of the waters of the state must file a report of waste discharge. Water Code section 13263 provides that a regional water board shall prescribe discharge requirements in order to implement any relevant water quality control plans, and with specific considerations including beneficial uses to be protected and water quality objectives necessary to protect those uses.

Water Code section 13269 provides that the State Water Board or a regional water quality control board may waive the requirements for dischargers to submit reports of waste discharge and for issuance of waste discharge requirements. The State Water Board

adopted a conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements as part of the OWTS Policy, in order to implement the framework of state and local agency coordination in regulating OWTS. The conditional waiver, set forth in OWTS Policy section 12.0, waives requirements to submit a report of waste discharge, obtain waste discharge requirements, and pay fees for discharges from OWTS covered by the Policy where those discharges are in compliance with specified conditions.

By law, waivers expire five years after adoption; the conditional waiver in the OWTS Policy will expire on May 13, 2018. The waiver conditions are evaluated below.

3.2 Review of Waiver Conditions

CWC section 13269 (f) requires that prior to renewing any waiver for a specific type of discharge, the State Water Board shall review the terms of the waiver at a public hearing. The State Water Board shall further determine whether the discharge for which the waiver was established should be subject to general or individual WDRs.

The conditional waiver in OWTS Policy section 12 waives the requirements for OWTS owners to submit an RWD, obtain WDRs, and pay fees for discharges from OWTS covered by the OWTS Policy. The waiver conditions include the following:

- The OWTS shall function as designed with no surfacing effluent.

Systems that are failing are immediately classified as Tier 4 OWTS. The failures are further classified as major or minor; OWTS that experience a major failure may not be reclassified as a Tier 0 system. In addition, OWTS included in Tier 4 must continue to meet applicable requirements of Tier 0, 1, 2, or 3 pending completion of corrective action. This condition of the waiver is protective of water quality and human health; no change is needed.

- The OWTS shall not utilize a dispersal system that is in soil saturated with groundwater.

This condition is protective of water quality because unsaturated conditions improve wastewater treatment and limit migration of pathogens. This condition is protective of water quality and human health; no change is needed.

- The OWTS shall not be operated while inundated by a storm or flood event.

This condition protects water quality and human health. Inundated OWTS do not adequately protect water quality and human health. This condition is protective of water quality and human health; no change is needed.

- The OWTS shall not cause or contribute to a condition of nuisance or pollution.

This condition is consistent with Regional Water Board basin plans. Determination of compliance will be through monitoring requirements contained in OWTS Policy section 3.3 (for local agencies that do not submit a local agency management program (LAMP)), and sections 9.1, 9.2, and 9.3 (for local agencies that do submit a LAMP), sections 10.13, 10.14, and 10.15 (for local agencies that implement Tier 3 permitting without an advanced protection management program (APMP), and

section 10.16 (for local agencies that do submit an APMP). This condition is protective of water quality and human health; no change is needed.

- The OWTS shall comply with all applicable local agency codes, ordinances, and requirements.

Many local agencies that permit OWTS have submitted, for Regional Water Board approval, a LAMP that describes how their local program will be implemented to protect water quality. After May 13, 2018, local agencies that do not submit a LAMP will be limited to permitting new or replacement OWTS consistent with Tier 1 requirements, which are considered to be conservative and protective throughout the state. In addition, the OWTS Policy contains significant limits on what local agencies may permit. Only domestic wastewater, and in limited cases high strength wastewater with additional treatment requirements, is allowed. Wastewater flow limits are imposed for each tier; Tier 1 facilities may only discharge up to 3,500 gallons per day (gpd), and the highest allowable flow rate is 10,000 gpd (Tiers 2 and 3). Discharge of wastewater at lower flow rates inherently has less potential to significantly degrade water quality. Tier 1 density limits similarly are protective and may only be revised through a Regional Water Board approval process. This condition is protective of water quality and human health; no change is needed.

- The OWTS shall comply with and meet any applicable TMDL implementation requirements, special provisions for impaired water bodies, or supplemental treatment requirements imposed by Tier 3.

For those OWTS located within the geographic area of a Tier 3 listed waterbody, local agencies may (in order of hierarchy, lowest first) implement the default requirements contained in OWTS Policy section 10, submit an advanced protection management program (APMP) for Regional Water Board approval, or implement the requirements of an adopted TMDL implementation plan. This condition is protective of water quality and human health; no change is needed.

- The OWTS shall comply with any corrective action requirements of Tier 4.

As noted above, systems that are failing are immediately classified as Tier 4 OWTS. The failures are further classified as major or minor; OWTS that experience a major failure may not be reclassified as a Tier 0 system. In addition, OWTS included in Tier 4 must continue to meet applicable requirements of Tier 0, 1, 2, or 3 pending completion of corrective action. This condition is protective of water quality and human health; no change is needed.

- The waiver may be revoked by the State Water Board or the applicable Regional Water Board for any discharge from an OWTS, or from a category of OWTS.

This condition allows the Regional Water Board or State Water Board authority to revoke the waiver for an OWTS. If the waiver is revoked, the OWTS operator must file an RWD and obtain WDRs or an enforcement order to allow continued operation of the OWTS. This condition is protective of water quality and human health; no change is needed.

The OWTS Policy contains a schedule of implementation, according to which OWTS owners, local agencies, Regional Water Boards, and the State Water Board have been implementing the requirements consistent with the OWTS Policy schedule. The renewal will continue the waiver in effect, allow continued OWTS regulation by local agencies, not subject OWTS owners to excessive or duplicative fee requirements, and prevent duplicative permitting requirements. The conditions contained within the OWTS Policy waiver are adequately protective of water quality and human health. Because the conditions contained in the waiver are appropriate, requiring all OWTS to be subject to general or individual WDRs is not necessary.

3.3 *Revisions to Tables 5 and 6, Attachment 2*

OWTS Policy Attachment 2 contains Tables 5 and 6. The tables provide a list of impaired water bodies that, at the time of OWTS Policy preparation, were considered to have a significant OWTS discharge component. The tables provide a schedule for the Regional Water Boards to adopt TMDLs. Since the OWTS Policy was adopted, new information has been collected and the Regional Water Boards have requested certain changes to the tables.

Attachment A provides a summary of proposed amendments to OWTS Policy Tables 5 and 6 with justification. (Water bodies with no proposed amendment from the OWTS Policy do not appear on the table in Attachment A.) Attachment B presents the proposed amendments to OWTS Policy Tables 5 and 6 in underline/strikethrough format. The amendments include removing water bodies from the tables or revising the schedule for TMDL adoption. Justifications include:

- Removal of water bodies from the tables is based upon completed TMDLs that did not include an OWTS load allocation, delisting of water bodies from the CWA 303 (d) list, and/or technical studies and reports that indicate OWTS are not contributing sources.
- Schedule changes are based upon delays in obtaining data used for the analysis, revisions to the TMDL project scope, available staff to perform the work, new information regarding contaminant sources, and office closures due to natural disasters (wildfires).

ATTACHMENT A
SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS TO OWTS POLICY TABLES 5 AND 6

Proposed Amendments to OWTS Policy Table 5 (pathogens)

REGION	REGION NAME	WATERBODY NAME	COUNTIES	TMDL COMPLETION DATE	JUSTIFICATION
1	North Coast	Russian River HU, Lower Russian River HA, Guerneville HSA, mainstream Russian River from Fife Creek to Dutch Bill Creek	Sonoma	2016 2018	Several reaches of the Russian River Watershed were listed on the 303(d) list of impaired waters for pathogens in 2012. A draft Action Plan for the Russian River Watershed Pathogen TMDL and staff report were released for public review in 2015. Public comments resulted in the following:
1	North Coast	Russian River HU, Lower Russian River HA, Guerneville HSA, Green Valley Creek Watershed	Sonoma	2016 2018	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishing clear roles and responsibilities with the counties related to the implementation of programs for OWTS, homeless and farmworker encampments, recreation, and other issues. In December 2016, the Regional Water Board entered into a memorandum of understanding with the County of Sonoma and the Sonoma County Community Development Commission to clarify the roles. Similar efforts are planned with Mendocino County. 2. Refining the Advanced Protection Management Program (APMP) boundaries for assessment, upgrade and/or replacement of failing OWTS. 3. Assisting counties in obtaining technical and financial assistance to plan for and to implement upgrades or replacements of failing OWTS. Staff is working with Sonoma County, the State Water Board Division of Financial Assistance and Office of Public Participation, and the Rural Community Assistance Corporation to apply for a planning grant for the communities of Monte Rio, Villa Grande, Northwood, and Camp Meeker as a pilot project. 4. Meeting with various communities that can potentially be affected by the Action Plan to seek their input. <p>Further, the State Water Board has been developing revised statewide REC-1 objectives for bacteria, an action with implications for the Russian River</p>
1	North Coast	Russian River HU, Middle Russian River HA, Geyserville HSA, mainstream Russian River at Healdsburg Memorial Beach and unnamed tributary at Fitch Mountain	Sonoma	2016 2018	
1	North Coast	Russian River HU, Middle Russian River HA, mainstream Laguna de Santa Rosa	Sonoma	2016 2018	
1	North Coast	Russian River HU, Middle Russian River HA, mainstream Santa Rosa Creek	Sonoma	2016 2018	

Proposed Amendments to OWTS Policy Table 5 (pathogens)

REGION	REGION NAME	WATERBODY NAME	COUNTIES	TMDL COMPLETION DATE	JUSTIFICATION
					<p>Pathogen TMDL. The State Water Board released a draft bacteria water quality objective in 2017. The draft objectives have now been incorporated into the TMDL, waste load allocations, load allocations, and numeric targets as an additional margin of safety. The Regional Board awaits the State Board's adoption of these proposed standards in February 2018.</p> <p>In combination, revisions to the standards and program of implementation have necessitated a newly revised TMDL Action Plan and staff report. These were released for public comment, ending in September 2017. The adoption hearing was scheduled in December 2017.</p> <p>Wildfires erupted in October 2017, closing the Regional Board office for a week, impacting staff, and creating new urgent issues. The Russian River TMDL adoption hearing was postponed and rescheduled for July 2018.</p>
2	San Francisco Bay	China Camp Beach	Marin	2014	SF Bay Bacteria TMDL approved in 2016. OWTS not identified as a source, no special controls are needed.
2	San Francisco Bay	Lawsons Landing	Marin	2015	Delisted in 2016 Integrated Report
2	San Francisco Bay	Pacific Ocean at Bolinas Beach	Marin	2014	Delisted in 2016 Integrated Report
2	San Francisco Bay	Pacific Ocean at Fitzgerald Marine Reserve	San Mateo	2016	Delisted in 2016 Integrated Report
2	San Francisco Bay	Pacific Ocean at Muir Beach	Marin	2015	Delisted in 2016 Integrated Report
2	San Francisco Bay	Pacific Ocean at Pillar Point Beach	San Mateo	2016 2022	Based on current work load and priorities, this work is anticipated for completion in 2022.
2	San Francisco Bay	Petaluma River	Marin, Sonoma	2017 2018	Based on current work load and priorities, this work is anticipated for completion in 2018.
2	San Francisco Bay	Petaluma River (tidal portion)	Marin, Sonoma	2017 2018	Based on current work load and priorities, this work is anticipated for completion in 2018.

Proposed Amendments to OWTS Policy Table 5 (pathogens)

REGION	REGION NAME	WATERBODY NAME	COUNTIES	TMDL COMPLETION DATE	JUSTIFICATION
2	San Francisco Bay	San Gregorio Creek	San Mateo	2019 2022	Based on current work load and priorities, this work is anticipated for completion in 2022
3	Central Coast	Pacific Ocean at Point Rincon (mouth of Rincon Cr., Santa Barbara County)	Santa Barbara	2015	The Central Coast Water Board's 2014-2016 federal Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List of impaired waterbodies removed all listings (Fecal Coliform and Total Coliform) for Pacific Ocean at Point Rincon. The 2014-2016 List was approved by the Central Coast Water Board on December 9, 2016 and by the State Water Board on October 3, 2017. The list is currently at U.S. EPA for approval.
4	Los Angeles	San Antonio Creek (Tributary to Ventura River Reach 4)	Ventura	2017 2024	The schedule extension is needed to study the impacts of the Thomas Fire on bacteria loading in the Ventura River watershed.
4	Los Angeles	Ventura River Reach 3 (Weldon Canyon to confl. w/ Coyote Creek)	Ventura	2017 2024	The schedule extension is needed to study the impacts of the Thomas Fire on bacteria loading in the Ventura River watershed.
5	Central Valley	Wolf Creek (Nevada County)	Nevada, Placer	2020 2024	Data indicates sanitary sewer overflows or wastewater treatment plant discharges as potential pathogen sources. A schedule extension is needed to allow time for additional monitoring and source analyses for TMDL development.
5	Central Valley	Woods Creek (Tuolumne County)	Tuolumne	2020 2024	Analysis of available information combined with new information from Tuolumne County Environmental Health Director indicates OWTS may not be a key pathogen source to Woods Creek; homeless camps, livestock pastures, and sanitary sewer overflows are suspected sources. A schedule extension is needed to allow time for additional monitoring and source analyses for TMDL development
8	Santa Ana	Canyon Lake (Railroad Canyon Reservoir)	Riverside	2019	Remove from Attachment 2 - the 2016 303(d) List as approved by the Regional Board and State Board delists this waterbody for pathogens

Proposed Amendments to OWTS Policy Table 5 (pathogens)

REGION	REGION NAME	WATERBODY NAME	COUNTIES	TMDL COMPLETION DATE	JUSTIFICATION
8	Santa Ana	Fulmor Lake	Riverside	2019	Remove from Attachment 2 - the 2016 303(d) List as approved by the Regional Board and State Board delists this waterbody for pathogens
8	Santa Ana	Goldenstar Creek	Riverside	2019, 2021	2016 303(d) List as approved by the Regional Board and State Board indicated a revised expected TMDL completion date
8	Santa Ana	Los Trancos Creek (Crystal Cove Creek)	Orange	2017	Remove from Attachment 2 - the 2016 303(d) List as approved by the Regional Board and State Board delists this waterbody for pathogens
8	Santa Ana	Lytle Creek	San Bernadino	2019	Remove from Attachment 2 - the 2016 303(d) List as approved by the Regional Board and State Board delists this waterbody for pathogens
8	Santa Ana	Mill Creek Reach 1	San Bernadino	2015, 2019	2016 303(d) List as approved by the Regional Board and State Board indicated a revised expected TMDL completion date
8	Santa Ana	Mill Creek Reach-2	San Bernadino	2015	Remove from Attachment 2 - the 2016 303(d) List as approved by the Regional Board and State Board delists this waterbody for pathogens
8	Santa Ana	Morning Canyon Creek	Orange	2017, 2021	2016 303(d) List as approved by the Regional Board and State Board indicated a revised expected TMDL completion date
8	Santa Ana	Mountain Home Creek	San Bernadino	2019	Remove from Attachment 2 – listed with indicator bacteria, source unknown Data collected by Regional Board staff in 2012 (outside of the 2016 Listing Cycle data solicitation) support the delisting of Mountain Home Creek for Indicator Bacteria in the next listing cycle
8	Santa Ana	Silverado Creek	Orange	2017	Remove from Attachment 2 – the 2016 303(d) List as approved by the Regional Board and State Board delists this waterbody for pathogens
8	Santa Ana	Peters Canyon Channel	Orange	2017	Remove from Attachment 2 – the 2016 303(d) List as approved by the Regional Board and State Board delists this waterbody for pathogens
8	Santa Ana	Santa Ana River Reach 2	Orange, Riverside	2019	Remove from Attachment 2 - the 2016 303(d) List as approved by the Regional Board and State Board delists this waterbody for pathogens
8	Santa Ana	Temescal Creek Reach 6 (Elsinore)	Riverside	2019	Remove from Attachment 2 - the 2016 303(d) List as approved by the Regional

Proposed Amendments to OWTS Policy Table 5 (pathogens)

REGION	REGION NAME	WATERBODY NAME	COUNTIES	TMDL COMPLETION DATE	JUSTIFICATION
		Groundwater subbasin boundary to Lake Elsinore Outlet)			Board and State Board delists this waterbody for pathogens
8	Santa Ana	Seal Beach	Orange	2017, 2019	2016 303(d) List as approved by the Regional Board and State Board indicated a revised expected TMDL completion date
8	Santa Ana	Serrano Creek	Orange	2017, 2021	2016 303(d) List as approved by the Regional Board and State Board indicated a revised expected TMDL completion date
8	Santa Ana	Huntington Harbor	Orange	2017, 2019	2016 303(d) List as approved by the Regional Board and State Board indicated a revised expected TMDL completion date

Proposed Amendments to OWTS Policy Table 6 (nitrogen)

REGION	REGION NAME	WATERBODY NAME	COUNTIES	TMDL COMPLETION DATE	JUSTIFICATION
1	North Coast	Russian River-HU, Middle-Russian River-HA, mainstream-Laguna de Santa Rosa	Sonoma	2016	All Laguna de Santa Rosa waterbody-pollutant pairs were delisted from the 303(d) list during the 2012 listing cycle.
2	San Francisco Bay	Lagunitas Creek	Marin	2016 2022	A nutrient study was conducted in 2016/17. Will probably delist in 2022 Integrated Report. If not, will develop TMDL.
2	San Francisco Bay	Napa River	Napa, Solano	2014	Will be delisted in 2018 Integrated Report. Regional Water Board approved the delisting in 2014.
2	San Francisco Bay	Petaluma River	Marin, Sonoma	2017 2022	A nutrient study was conducted in 2016/17. Will probably delist in 2022 Integrated Report. If not, will develop TMDL.
2	San Francisco Bay	Petaluma River (tidal portion)	Marin, Sonoma	2017 2022	Recent analysis of water quality conditions for direct and indirect effects of eutrophication indicates nutrients are not elevated and not associated with algae blooms in Petaluma River. Initially, a combined TMDL for nutrients and pathogens was proposed for the water body. Data collected over two years indicates that nutrients are not exceeding the narrative water quality objective for biostimulatory substances. The data were presented in a public stakeholder meeting in 2017. Therefore a TMDL addressing nitrogen is presently unnecessary.
2	San Francisco Bay	Sonoma Creek	Sonoma	2014	Will be delisted in 2018 Integrated Report. Regional Water Board approved the delisting in 2014.
2	San Francisco Bay	Tomaes Bay	Marin	2019	Water quality data demonstrate that nitrogen is not elevated in Tomales Bay and are not causing excessive algae blooms. Additional reasons that nutrient conditions have improved in this water body include conversion of a large cattle ranch to 550 acres of tidal wetlands and conversion of 50 septic systems to a community based system. Therefore, we conclude the water body is not impaired by nitrogen and a TMDL addressing nitrogen is presently unnecessary.

Proposed Amendments to OWTS Policy Table 6 (nitrogen)

REGION	REGION NAME	WATERBODY NAME	COUNTIES	TMDL COMPLETION DATE	JUSTIFICATION
2	San Francisco Bay	Walker Creek	Marin	2016 2022	A nutrient study was conducted in 2016/17. Will probably delist in 2022 Integrated Report. If not, will develop TMDL.
4	Los Angeles	San Antonio Creek (Tributary to Ventura River Reach 4)	Ventura	2013	A TMDL was adopted in 2013. Ventura County has included the implementation plan in the APMP submitted for approval.
8	Santa Ana	East Garden Grove Wintersburg Channel	Orange	2017 2020	Staff are working with local sewerage agencies to determine if significant numbers of OWTS exist within the Tier 3 geographic area of the water body.
8	Santa Ana	Serrano Creek	Orange	2017 , 2021	2016 303(d) List as approved by the Regional Board and State Board indicated a revised expected TMDL completion date

ATTACHMENT B

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL POLICY FOR SITING, DESIGN, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS

Revisions show additions in **bold underline** and deletions in **~~bold underline strikethrough~~**.

1. Revise Attachment 2, Table 5:

The tables below specifically identify those impaired water bodies where: (1) it is likely that operating OWTS will subsequently be determined to be a contributing source of pathogens or nitrogen and therefore it is anticipated that OWTS would receive a loading reduction, and (2) it is likely that new OWTS installations discharging within 600 feet of the water body would contribute to the impairment. Per this Policy (Tier 3, Section 10) the Regional Water Boards must adopt a TMDL by the date specified in the table. The State Water Board, at the time of approving future 303 (d) Lists, will specifically identify those impaired water bodies that are to be added or removed from the tables below.

Table 5. Water Bodies impaired for pathogens that are subject to Tier 3 as of 2012.

REGION NO.	REGION NAME	WATERBODY NAME	COUNTIES	TMDL Completion Date
1	North Coast	Clam Beach	Humboldt	2020
1	North Coast	Luffenholtz Beach	Humboldt	2020
1	North Coast	Moonstone County Park	Humboldt	2020
1	North Coast	Russian River HU, Lower Russian River HA, Guerneville HSA, mainstream Russian River from Fife Creek to Dutch Bill Creek	Sonoma	2016 2018
1	North Coast	Russian River HU, Lower Russian River HA, Guerneville HSA, Green Valley Creek watershed	Sonoma	2016 2018
1	North Coast	Russian River HU, Middle Russian River HA, Geyserville HSA, mainstream Russian River at Healdsburg Memorial Beach and unnamed tributary at Fitch Mountain	Sonoma	2016 2018
1	North Coast	Russian River HU, Middle Russian River HA, mainstream Laguna de Santa Rosa	Sonoma	2016 2018
1	North Coast	Russian River HU, Middle Russian River HA, mainstream Santa Rosa Creek	Sonoma	2016 2018
1	North Coast	Trinidad State Beach	Humboldt	2020
2	San Francisco Bay	China Camp Beach	Marin	2014
2	San Francisco Bay	Lawsons Landing	Marin	2015
2	San Francisco Bay	Pacific Ocean at Bolinas Beach	Marin	2014

ATTACHMENT B
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL POLICY FOR SITING, DESIGN, OPERATION AND
MAINTENANCE OF ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS

B-2

(Table 5 revision continued)

REGION NO.	REGION NAME	WATERBODY NAME	COUNTIES	TMDL Completion Date
2	San Francisco Bay	Pacific Ocean at Fitzgerald Marine Reserve	San Mateo	2016
2	San Francisco Bay	Pacific Ocean at Muir Beach	Marin	2015
2	San Francisco Bay	Pacific Ocean at Pillar Point Beach	San Mateo	2016 2022
2	San Francisco Bay	Petaluma River	Marin, Sonoma	2017 2018
2	San Francisco Bay	Petaluma River (tidal portion)	Marin, Sonoma	2017 2018
2	San Francisco Bay	San Gregorio Creek	San Mateo	2019 2022
3	Central Coast	Pacific Ocean at Point Rincon (mouth of Rincon Cr, Santa Barbara County)	Santa Barbara	2015
3	Central Coast	Rincon Creek	Santa Barbara, Ventura	2015
4	Los Angeles	Canada Larga (Ventura River Watershed)	Ventura	2017
4	Los Angeles	Coyote Creek	Los Angeles, Orange	2015
4	Los Angeles	Rincon Beach	Ventura	2017
4	Los Angeles	San Antonio Creek (Tributary to Ventura River Reach 4)	Ventura	2017 2024
4	Los Angeles	San Gabriel River Reach 1 (Estuary to Firestone)	Los Angeles	2015
4	Los Angeles	San Gabriel River Reach 2 (Firestone to Whittier Narrows Dam)	Los Angeles	2015
4	Los Angeles	San Gabriel River Reach 3 (Whittier Narrows to Ramona)	Los Angeles	2015
4	Los Angeles	San Jose Creek Reach 1 (SG Confluence to Temple St.)	Los Angeles	2015
4	Los Angeles	San Jose Creek Reach 2 (Temple to I-10 at White Ave.)	Los Angeles	2015
4	Los Angeles	Sawpit Creek	Los Angeles	2015
4	Los Angeles	Ventura River Reach 3 (Weldon Canyon to Confl. w/ Coyote Cr)	Ventura	2017 2024
4	Los Angeles	Walnut Creek Wash (Drains from Puddingstone Res)	Los Angeles	2015
5	Central Valley	Wolf Creek (Nevada County)	Nevada, Placer	2020 2024
5	Central Valley	Woods Creek (Tuolumne County)	Tuolumne	2020 2024
7	Colorado River	Alamo River	Imperial	2017

(Table 5 revision continued)

REGION NO.	REGION NAME	WATERBODY NAME	COUNTIES	TMDL Completion Date
7	Colorado River	Palo Verde Outfall Drain and Lagoon	Imperial, Riverside	2017
8	Santa Ana	Canyon Lake (Railroad Canyon Reservoir)	Riverside	2019
8	Santa Ana	Fulmor, Lake	Riverside	2019
8	Santa Ana	Goldenstar Creek	Riverside	2019 <u>2021</u>
8	Santa Ana	Los Trancos Creek (Crystal Cove Creek)	Orange	2017
8	Santa Ana	Lytle Creek	San Bernardino	2019
8	Santa Ana	Mill Creek Reach 1	San Bernardino	2015 <u>2019</u>
8	Santa Ana	Mill Creek Reach 2	San Bernardino	2015
8	Santa Ana	Morning Canyon Creek	Orange	2017 <u>2021</u>
8	Santa Ana	Mountain Home Creek	San Bernardino	2019
8	Santa Ana	Mountain Home Creek, East Fork	San Bernardino	2019
8	Santa Ana	Silverado Creek	Orange	2017
8	Santa Ana	Peters Canyon Channel	Orange	2017
8	Santa Ana	Santa Ana River, Reach 2	Orange, Riverside	2019
8	Santa Ana	Temescal Creek, Reach 6 (Elsinore Groundwater-sub-basin boundary to Lake Elsinore Outlet)	Riverside	2019
8	Santa Ana	Seal Beach	Orange	2017 <u>2019</u>
8	Santa Ana	Serrano Creek	Orange	2017 <u>2021</u>
8	Santa Ana	Huntington Harbour	Orange	2017 <u>2019</u>

2. Revise Attachment 2, Table 6:

Table 6. Water Bodies impaired for nitrogen that are subject to Tier 3.

REGION NO.	REGION NAME	WATERBODY NAME	COUNTIES	TMDL Completion Date
4	North Coast	Russian River HU, Middle Russian River HA, mainstream Laguna de Santa Rosa	Sonoma	2015
2	San Francisco Bay	Lagunitas Creek	Marin	2016 2022
2	San Francisco Bay	Napa River	Napa, Solano	2014
2	San Francisco Bay	Petaluma River	Marin, Sonoma	2017 2022
2	San Francisco Bay	Petaluma River (tidal portion)	Marin, Sonoma	2017 2022
2	San Francisco Bay	Sonoma Creek	Sonoma	2014
2	San Francisco Bay	Tomaes Bay	Marin	2019
2	San Francisco Bay	Walker Creek	Marin	2016 2022
4	Los Angeles	Malibu Creek	Los Angeles	2016
4	Los Angeles	San Antonio Creek (Tributary to Ventura River Reach 4)	Ventura	2013
8	Santa Ana	East Garden Grove Wintersburg Channel	Orange	2017 2020
8	Santa Ana	Grout Creek	San Bernardino	2015
8	Santa Ana	Rathbone (Rathbun) Creek	San Bernardino	2015
8	Santa Ana	Summit Creek	San Bernardino	2015
8	Santa Ana	Serrano Creek	Orange	2017 2021